

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new heading and paragraph after the TITLE of the invention and before the first paragraph as follows:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation application under 35 U.S.C. §120 of PCT/JP02/00582 filed on January 28, 2002 by Mamoru Kitamura entitled “Audio Reproducing Apparatus and Method”, and which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 to Japanese patent application 2001-20046 filed on January 29, 2001, also by Mamoru Kitamura.--